

Please replace claim 13 with the following clean set of amended claim 13. A version with markings to show changes made is included in Exhibit A.

13. (Amended) A method to treat a viral infection in a subject via inhibiting the prenylation of a protein contained in the virus infecting said subject, which method comprises administering to said subject an agent selected from the group consisting of
an agent that mimics the amino acid sequence of a "CXXX" (SEQ ID NO:1), "XCXX" (SEQ ID NO:4), "XXCX" (SEQ ID NO:5), or "XXXC" (SEQ ID NO: 6) box as it occurs in said viral protein, and
an inhibitor of a prenyl transferase.

Please add new claims 22-23 as follows:

22. The method of claim 13, wherein the prenyl transferase is a farnesyltransferase.

23. The method of claim 13, wherein the prenyl transferase is a geranylgeranyltransferase.

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present Amendment, claims 13, 14, 16 and 18-23 will be pending. Claims 15 and 17 are canceled without any prejudice and disclaimer and Applicant reserves the rights to pursue the cancelled subject matter in a subsequent continuation application. Support for reciting "an agent that mimics the amino acid sequence of a "CXXX"" in the amended claim 13 can be found throughout the specification and, *inter alia*, in claims 2 and 4 as originally filed. Support for reciting "farnesyltransferase" and "geranylgeranyltransferase" in the new claims 22-23 can be found throughout the specification and, *inter alia*, at page 5, lines 7-9 of the present specification. The above-described amendments do not introduce any new matter into the present application.

Claim 13 is amended and claims 15 and 17 are canceled to expedite the prosecution of the present application. For Examiner's information, FTI-277, one of the compounds described